

citizen, and with the other to bestow f

upon favored individuals to aid private enterprises and build up private fortunes, is none the less a robbery because it is done under the forms of law and is called taxation."

**SOCKS FOR MR. MCKINLEY.**

**His Tariff Leads an Irish Land to Make Him**

Samuel D. Frew came to this country from Belfast, North Ireland, six years ago. He liked the American climate and the American people, but he could not endure American stockings. He longed for the comfortable, home-knit hosiery of old Ireland. And so finally he wrote to his mother in Ireland to send him some stockings. She weighed six pounds of wool and so knit him six pairs of Irish stockings and sent them to her son.

But she didn't write about them, for she wanted them to be a surprise, and the first young Frew knew of the matter was when a bulky document arrived from the custom house. It was as follows:

Samuel D. Frew to the Morris European & American Express Co., custom house brokers and forwarding agents, Br.:  
To specific duty on one pound manufactured wool at 49 cents..... 1.30  
To valorem duty on articles valued at \$1, at 40 per cent..... 1.20  
Reimbursements, charges and freight..... .50  
United States bonded storage and labor..... .50  
Customs shipping and delivery..... .50  
Postage, etc..... .50  
Total..... 5.40  
Custom house entries, etc..... .50

Total..... 5.90

When Frew looked at the bill he thought the custom house was at fault, so he went home and hunted up a tariff book and figured out just what the tariff ought to be. Here is the way he made it:

To valorem duty on articles valued at \$1, at 40 per cent..... 1.20  
Specific duty on one pound manufactured wool at 49 cents..... 1.30  
Total..... 2.50

Frew went back to the express office indignant at the thought of being so imposed upon and handed the clerk the bill as he made it out. The clerk looked at it and laughed. "Oh, that's under the old tariff bill," said he. "This other bill is made according to Mr. McKinley's new tariff laws."

"You won't accept my bill, then?" said Frew.

"No," answered the official.

Frew thought for a moment. Then he called the clerk aside and whispered confidentially.

"You tell that d-d McKinley that I can have my stockings."

The stockings are still at the custom house, and after the expiration of the tariff law which has taken public notice as the action same as the Astor dressers'—N. Y. World.

**HIGH TARIFF AND SHODDY.**

One Effect of the Wool Tariff Has Been to Increase the Use of Shoddy.

The American Wool Reporter recently published the following:

"The increase in the duty on carpet wools renders it necessary for carpet manufacturers to change present prices, and the increase in the price of carpets over a year ago being proportionately not as great as the increase in the duty on the raw material. One effect of the increased duty is seen in the use of more shoddy and hair in the making of ingrain carpets. The increased duty has unquestionable curtailed consumption and has hurt the manufacture of carpets. If carpet wools were free we should have a better grade of ingrain at cheaper prices. This would lead to an improved demand from those who have to consider the cost even when purchasing an ingrain carpet, and the whole industry would be materially benefited."

No wonder that the shoddy manufacturers, whose business has been booming since the enactment of the McKinley tariff, declared during the campaign of 1888 that the election of Cleveland would be the death of their business under the old tariff bill. "I said so under the high tariffs," since the war when manufacturers of woolen goods openly declare that the day is passed when all-wool goods are the rule. Shall King Shoddy rule supreme? Freedom would be the death of shoddy.

**The Piano Manufacturers.**

Mr. Alfred Dolge took occasion in a recent issue of the New York World to say that the McKinley tariff had increased the cost of making a piano only twenty-five cents. Mr. Dolge is a dealer in piano supplies and the only manufacturer of piano hammer felt in this country, and probably knows the facts, but it is a little puzzling to ordinary business men to know just how he makes his estimates. Some of the piano manufacturers are not a little surprised that anyone should make such statements. They say: "Nearly everything that goes into a piano costs more. Tuning pinns have gone up 80 cents per 1,000, or 20 cents a piano; piano wire, 20 cents a pound, and it takes one pound to each treble; keys cost \$1 more per set; imported felts, 30 cents more per pound or 28 cents for each piano. These are but a few of the items which cost the manufacturer more because the duty was greatly increased on them, consequently the piano business has not been as dull in fifteen years as it has been this spring and summer. Nearly all factories are on half time, where they ought to be filling full orders. Firms that usually make forty piano a week are only making eight or ten now."

**Buying Out Competitors.**

Some years ago a prominent American manufacturer of screws made a contract with a firm in Manchester, England, to pay him the sum of \$30,000 for keeping out of the American market. High prices in the protected home market were so important to this American firm that they were willing to pay hard cash to have this protection's precious market all to themselves.

This odd freak of protectionism has just been repeated in Germany. It is that country there is a duty of \$8.10 a ton on steel rails, and the manufacturers have a right to sell them at prices which baffles the American fashion. But the thing disturbed the high tariff articles of the German rail trust. It was Belgian competition. But now peace reigns; the trust has paid the Belgians many millions \$30,000 to keep out of Germany.

Protection manufacturers are a queer lot, always so miserably poor, always so content to be ruined by foreign competition, and yet they can go deep in their pockets to pay the tax.

**Who Pays the Tax?**

Marshall Field & Co. yesterday imported \$1,400 worth of pearl buttons and paid \$3,000 duty on the lot. The buttons are to be sold to the people of Chicago. Who will ultimately pay the \$7,000 as a tribute to a misbegotten economy policy?—Chicago Mail.